

SENATE, No. 721

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator RICHARD J. CODEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Gill

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain public venues and places of worship to submit emergency plans to law enforcement agencies for purpose of preparing for mass casualty and active shooter events.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/16/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning law enforcement and amending P.L.2010, c.78.

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

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6 1. Section 1 of P.L.2010, c.78 (C.52:27D-224.3) is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 1. All sports and entertainment facilities, movie theaters, and
9 places of worship in the State shall annually prepare and maintain
10 an emergency operations plan in coordination with the appropriate
11 local fire, law enforcement, and emergency response agencies. A
12 copy of the plan shall be filed each year with the municipal
13 emergency management coordinator and chief law enforcement
14 officer who serves the municipality in which the sports and
15 entertainment facility, movie theater, or place of worship is
16 situated.

17 The emergency operations plan shall include, but not be limited
18 to, a copy of the building plans or building layout that identifies the
19 internal and external access routes of the sports and entertainment
20 facility, movie theater, or place of worship. The chief law
21 enforcement officer shall utilize the emergency operations plans
22 submitted pursuant to this section to prepare and train for mass
23 casualty and active shooter incidents at sports and entertainment
24 facilities, movie theaters, and places of worship.

25 An emergency operations plan shall not be considered a public
26 record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or P.L.2001,
27 c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.).

28 **【For the purposes of this act, "sports】** As used in this section:

29 “Movie theater” means a premises capable of seating more than
30 1,000 people at which the display of motion pictures to the general
31 public in exchange for a fee is the primary and principal business.

32 “Place of worship” means a building capable of seating more
33 than 500 people, including but not limited to a church, mosque, or
34 synagogue, used primarily as a place of public or private worship
35 on a permanent basis by a recognized and established religious sect
36 or denomination registered as a not-for-profit organization pursuant
37 to Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, 26
38 U.S.C. s.501 (c) (3).

39 “Sports and entertainment facility” means any privately or
40 publicly owned or operated facility capable of seating more than
41 5,000 people and is used primarily for sports contests,
42 entertainment, or both, such as a theater, stadium, museum, arena,
43 automobile racetrack, or other place where performances, concerts,
44 exhibits, games or contests are held.

45 (cf: P.L.2010, c.78, s.1)

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 2. This act shall take effect of the first day of the seventh
2 month following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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7 This bill requires sports and entertainment facilities capable of
8 seating more than 5,000 people, movie theaters capable of seating
9 more than 1,000 people, and places of worship capable of seating
10 more than 500 people to annually prepare and maintain an
11 emergency operations plan in coordination with the appropriate
12 local fire, law enforcement, and emergency response agencies.

13 Under section 1 of P.L.2010, c.78 (C.52:27D-224.3), sports and
14 entertainment facilities are required to annually file an emergency
15 operations plan with the municipal emergency management
16 coordinator. This bill extends this requirement to movie theaters
17 and places of worship and requires that the emergency operations
18 plan be submitted to the chief law enforcement officer who serves
19 the municipality in which the sports and entertainment facility,
20 movie theater, or place of worship is located. The emergency
21 operations plan is required to include, but not be limited to, a copy
22 of the building plans or building layout that identifies the internal
23 and external access routes of the sports and entertainment facility,
24 movie theater, or place of worship. The chief law enforcement
25 officer is required to utilize the emergency operations plans to
26 prepare and train for mass casualty and active shooter incidents at
27 these venues.